

Message Text

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44

ACTION OES-02

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 ERDA-05 ERDE-00 INR-05

INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 ACDA-10 SSO-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 IO-03 L-01 /055 W

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O R 271135Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4224

INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L S A I G O N 3 6 2 5

LIMDIS

DEPT PASS TO NEAL MOORE, DIVISON OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS,
ERDA, GERMANTOWN, MD.: CARL MALMSTROM, DEPUTY MGR.

USERDA, IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, VS

SUBJECT: VIETNAM RESEARCH REACTOR

REF: A) STATE 068591; B) STATE 066714; C) STATE 065363;
D) STATE 062177; E) STATE 031164; F) SAIGON 3267;
G) SAIGON 3311; H) SAIGON 3489; I) IAEA VIENNA 2556, 2536

1. HORAN AND HENDRICKSON INSPECTED DALAT REACTOR TODAY AND BELIEVE
AIR EVACUATION CAN BE CARRIED OUT. FACILITIES AT REACTOR SITE ARE
LIMITED BUT ADEQUATE. MEASUREMENTS OF FUEL ELEMENTS REVEAL 2
ROENTGENS PER HOUR AT 22 INCHES.

2. WITH RESPECT TO QUESTIONS POSED PARA 6, REF A, HEAVY DUTY TRUCK
IS AVAILABLE IN DALAT. ONE TON CAPACITY FORKLIFT NOT AVAILABLE AND
SHOULD BE LOADED ON AIRCRAFT. FIVE TON OVERHEAD WRIGHT CRANE IS ON
SITE AND IS OPERATIONAL. ONLY ONE UNDERWATER LIGHT FUNCTIONING.
REACTOR STAFF ATTEMPTING REPAIR OTHER TWO LIGHTS BUT FOR CONTINGENCY
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REQUEST LIGHT WITH UNDERWATER HOUSING AND 12 FOOT CABLE BE PLACED

ON AIRCRAFT. ALSO NEED HEADLING TOOL, ONE JORDAN RAECTOR RANGE TO 5 R/HR, SLING FOR 5 TON WRIGHT CRANE FITTED TO CASKS OR PALLET, FOUR TLD WRIST BADGES

3. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT UNLOADING AND LOADING OF AIRCRAFT WILL BE MOST DIFFICULT AND TIME CONSUMING TASK. THUS, NEED TO KNOW ASAP FOR PLANNING PURPOSES IF CASKS ARE PALLETIZED. IF SO, WHAT ARE DIMENSIONS OF PALLETS? CAN ONE TONE FORKLIFT HANDLE PALLETIZED CASKS? PERHAPS TWO TON CAPACITY FORKLIFT WOULD BE BETTER. IS IT EXPECTED THAT CASKS WILL BE HANDLED SEPARATELY? ARE TOOLS NEEDED AS MUCH ADVANCE DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE TO EXPEDITE HANDLING.

4. HORAN, HENDRICKSON AGREE THAT MISSION CAN BE ACCELERATED. AIRCRAFT SHOULD PROCEED TO CLARK AS SOON AS EQUIPEMENT REQUESTED ABOVE IS ON BOARD. REQUEST ETA CLARK WHERE FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE GIVEN.

5. GVN IS AWARE THAT PLUTOMIUM-BERYLLIUM NEUTRON SOURCE AT DALAT IS GVN PROPERTY. EMBASSY WILL DISCUSS DISPOSITION OF SOURCE WITH PROPER AUTHORITIES.

6. SECURITY SITUATION AT DALAT REMAINS STABLE. HOWEVER, TO ENSURE THAT REACTOR FUEL DOES NOT FALL INTO NORTH VIET-NAM HANDS IF SECURITY SITUATION WORSENS, CONTINGENCY PLAN TO FILL REACTOR TANK WITH CONCRETE WILL BE WORKED OUT WITH GVN AUTHORITIES. HORAN AND HENDRICKSON ARE PREPARED TO ASSIST.
LEHMANN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED IDAHO FALLS, IDAHA.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RESEARCH, NUCLEAR REACTORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SAIGON03625
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750107-0390
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975039/aaaaahzu.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 068591, 75 STATE 066714, 75 STATE 065363
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <07 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIETNAM RESEARCH REACTOR
TAGS: TECH, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006